

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 382 without my signature.

This bill would invalidate a permit to burn agricultural waste within the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) on any day or days in which burning from wood-burning devices, such as fireplaces, is prohibited.

This bill is unnecessary. The District has existing authority to regulate, as appropriate, both agricultural burning, through its California Air Resources Board-approved Smoke Management Program, and residential wood burning through existing District rules.

Additionally, vegetation management projects play a significant role in preventing and reducing the spread of devastating wildfires. As written, this bill could constrain the ability of Cal Fire to perform critical vegetation management projects on State Responsibility Area lands located within the District.

Burn activities should be judged both independently and in combination according to where the activities are occurring and the current air conditions. The District is the best entity to make this determination.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger